

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 9 and 14 as follows:

1 1.(Original) A method of authenticating first and second
2 electronic devices, comprising:
3 upon link set-up over a short-range wireless link, executing
4 an authentication protocol by exchanging authentication information
5 between the first and second electronic devices to initially
6 authenticate communication between the first and second devices;
7 later, when the first and second electronic devices are beyond
8 the short-range wireless link, executing the authentication
9 protocol by exchanging the authentication information between the
10 first and second electronic devices over an alternate
11 communications link, then only allowing communication between the
12 first and second devices if the first and second devices had
13 initially been successfully authenticated.

1 2.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the
2 authentication information is an authentication key.

1 3.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the
2 authentication information a password.

1 4.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first device
2 is a master device and the second device is a slave device.

1 5.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the short-range
2 wireless link is a radio link.

1 6.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the short-range
2 wireless link is an infra-red link.

1 7.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the link set-up
2 occurs when the first and second devices are in physical proximity.

1 8.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the short-range
2 wireless link conforms to a given RF protocol.

1 9.(Currently Amended) The method of Claim 28, wherein the
2 given RF protocol is Bluetooth.

1 10.(Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the link set-up
2 step includes entry of a given personal identification number into
3 each of the first and second electronic devices.

1 11.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the alternate
2 communications link is a computer network.

1 12.(Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein the first
2 electronic device is a client and the second electronic device is a
3 server.

1 13.(Original) A method of authenticating first and second
2 electronic devices, comprising:

3 upon link set-up over a first link, executing an
4 authentication protocol by exchanging authentication information
5 between the first and second electronic devices to initially
6 authenticate communication between the first and second devices;

7 later, when the first and second electronic devices are
8 connected using a second link, exchanging the authentication
9 information between the first and second electronic devices over the
10 second link, then only allowing communication between the first and

11 second devices if the first and second devices had initially been
12 successfully authenticated.

1 14. (Currently Amended) An electronic device, comprising:
2 a processor;
3 and
4 a memory loaded with a software routine executed by the
5 processor (a) for generating authentication information useful in
6 initially authenticating the electronic device to a another
7 electronic device over a short-range wireless link, and (b) for
8 later supplying the authentication information for later
9 authentication of the electronic device to the other_electronic
10 device over an alternate communications link when the devices are
11 beyond the short-range wireless link, then only allowing
12 communication between the devices if the devices had initially been
13 successfully authenticated.

1 15. (Original) The electronic device of Claim 14, wherein the
2 link set-up step includes entry of a given personal identification
3 number into each of the first and second electronic devices.

1 16.(Original) The electronic device of Claim 14, wherein the
2 electronic device is a client and the second electronic device is a
3 server.

1 17.(Original) A communications system, comprising:
2 a first electronic device;
3 a second electronic device;
4 a first communications link over which the first and second
5 electronic devices authenticate each other using a given protocol
6 that includes a link set-up and the exchange of authentication
7 information following the link set-up, the authentication
8 information being used to initially authenticate communication
9 between the first and second electronic devices; and
10 a second communications link over which the first and second
11 electronic devices later authenticate each other using the exchange
12 of the authentication information, then only allowing communication
13 between the first and second devices if the first and second devices
14 had initially been successfully authenticated.